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AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE INDIAN OCEAN

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 442nd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 30 June 1995, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. DE SILVA (Sri Lanka)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.45 a.m.

IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 49/82 OF 15 DECEMBER 1994 (continued)

1. Mr. ZAKI (Maldives) said that the main reasons for the adoption of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace had been the steady escalation of the arms race, competitive military presence and the resultant tensions which had become apparent both on a global scale and in the Indian Ocean region. The international community was currently making efforts to ensure that the arms race between major Powers and the growth of tension were consigned to history. It was therefore necessary to reconsider the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee.

2. The Maldivian delegation remained confident of the positive role which the Committee could play among the littoral and hinterland States in a number of areas such as fishing, exploitation of the sea-bed, transfer of technology, education and various technical, economic and environmental matters. It could also help to find peaceful ways and means of dealing with the political, military and economic upheavals which at the present time considerably frustrated developing small countries with limited resources in their efforts to achieve sustainable development.

3. Certain parts of the report which had been submitted to the General Assembly the previous year no longer applied to current realities. Very careful attention had to be given to the question of how best to reorganize the Committee's work so that its principal aim would be encouragement of closer cooperation between States in the Indian Ocean region. The Chairman of the Committee and the secretariat could establish close contacts with the Governments of States and other agencies in the region and thus promote regional cooperation.

The meeting was suspended at 10.55 a.m. and resumed at 12.25 p.m.

REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS FIFTIETH SESSION

4. Mrs. LINGAYA (Madagascar), Rapporteur, introduced the draft report of the Ad Hoc Committee (A/50/29) which had been prepared on the basis of the Committee's deliberations pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/82. During its 1995 session, the Committee had held five formal and two informal meetings, and South Africa had been given observer status. A new Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Committee Rapporteur were elected. A new Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Committee Rapporteur had been elected. At its 439th meeting, the Committee had heard a statement by the Chairman on his consultations with the Governments of three permanent members of the Security Council with a view to urging them to resume their participation in the work of the Committee; it had recommended that the Chairman should pursue his consultations and report thereon to the members of the Committee at a special meeting to be convened before the 1996 regular session of the Ad Hoc Committee.

5. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Committee wished to consider the draft report paragraph by paragraph.

Section I. Introduction

Paragraphs 1-5

6. Paragraphs 1-5 were adopted.

Section II. Work of the Ad Hoc Committee in 1995

Paragraphs 6-13

7. Paragraphs 6-13 were adopted.

Section III. Conclusions and recommendations

Paragraphs 14-19

8. Paragraphs 14-19 were adopted.

Paragraph 20

9. Mr. KHAN (Pakistan) proposed the inclusion of the words "in 1996" after the words "at a meeting called" in the second line of the paragraph.

10. Paragraph 20, as orally amended, was adopted.

11. The report of the Ad Hoc Committee to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, as orally amended, was adopted as a whole.

The meeting rose at 12.40 p.m.